

Argentine house ant (*Linepithema humile*)

- ❑ Native to Argentina and southern Brazil, now widespread by commerce in Mediterranean areas worldwide and common in CA. Also intercepted from HI & FL.
- ❑ Hosts: Adults feed on honeydew of sucking insects, which they tend (*i.e.* aphids, mealybugs and scales). Although nests are in the soil, adults are found in association with colonies of sucking insects on houseplants and palms.
- ❑ Field ID: Adult about 2-3 mm long, **dark brown**; antenna with **12 segments**; body surface **smooth and shiny, without standing hairs**; **abdominal pedicel with a dorsal scale or spine**, and abdominal tip **with a slit**.

